

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 GAC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 IO-12 EA-11

AF-10 /158 W

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R 240840 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3425

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, AF, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNYY VISITS AFGHANISTAN

REF: (A) KABUL 3616 (NOTAL); (B) MOSCOW 5820 (NOTAL)

1. SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNYY ARRIVED KABUL NOON MAY 21 AND DEPARTED MORNING MAY 24. STATE VISIT REPORTEDLY ARRANGED SOMEWHAT HURRIEDLY AFTER UNEXPECTED SOVIET INITIATIVE EARLY IN APRIL.

2. ALTHOUGH VISIT INVOLVED USUAL ELABORATE PROTOCOL FUNCTIONS, EXTENSIVE SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WITH KING WERE HELD MAY 22. THIS MEETING EXTENDED 90 MINUTES BEYOND SCHEDULED CLOSING TIME WHICH RESULTED IN PRIMIN' S LUNCHEON BEING DELAYED AND MUCH DIPLOMATIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPECULATION ABOUT REASONS. PODGORNYY PAID COURTESY CALL ON HIS MAJESTY AND LAID WREATH ON GRAVE HIS MAJESTY'S FATHER AFTERNOON MAY 21. PRIMIN SHAFIQ PAID COURTESY CALL ON PODGORNYY AFTERNOON MAY 21; AND CHIEFS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WERE INTRODUCED TO PODGORNYY EVENING MAY 22. HIS MAJESTY GAVE DINNER EVENING MAY 21, SOVIET EMBASSY GAVE RECEPTION EVENING MAY 22, AND KABUL MAYOR HOSTED ELABORATE OUTDOOR LUNCHEON MAY 23.

3. HIS MAJESTY'S SPEECH ON MAY 21 STRESSED NON- ALIGNMENT PRINCIPLE TO WHICH HE SAID RGA ATTACHES MUCH IMPORTANCE. AFTER POINTING OUT CLOSE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND USSR, HIS MAJESTY SPOKE OF (A) SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS EFFORTS IN ATTAINING RIGHT OF SELF- DETERMINATION OF PEOPLE AND NATIONS AND ALLEVIATING MANIFESTATIONS AND COLONIALISM, (B) AFGHAN SUPPORT FOR " STRUGGLE OF PEOPLE OF PASHTUNISTAN FOR ATTAINMENT OF RIGHT OF SELF- DETERMINATION THROUGH ALL PEACEFUL MEANS", (C) ISRAELI AGGRESSION AS CAUSE OF MIDDLE EAST TENSION AND NEED FOR JUST SOLUTION BASED ON GRANTING " ALL RIGHTS TO OUR ARAB BROTHERS IN PALESTINE AND RETURN OF TERRITORY OF SYRIA, EGYPT AND JORDAN OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL; (D) NEED FOR RECOGNITION OF EXISTING REALITIES IN SUB- CONTINENT AND FREEING OF PAKISTANI POWS IF POLITICAL STABILITY IS TO BE ESTABLISHED, AND (E) SOVIET EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE IN EUROPE WHICH " ALONG WITH RESULTS OBTAINED IN VIETNAM FOR BENEFIT OF PEACE IN INDO- CHINA REGION AND IN WORLD ARE HOPEFUL SIGNS FOR EFFECTIVE SOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS."

4. PRESIDENT PODGORNYY, AFTER PRAISING LONG COURSE OF AFGHAN- SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, DEVOTED NEARLY ONE- HALF OF SPEECH TO ASIAN SECURITY SYSTEM, CREATION OF WHICH HAS BEEN HINDERED, HE SAID, BY IMPERIALISTS AND COLONIALIST POWERS. POINTING TO INDO- CHINA AND SUB- CONTINENT, PODGORNYY STATED DEVELOPMENTS THERE AND " OTHER FACTORS SHOW CONVINCINGLY THAT LOFTY GOAL OF CREATING SYSTEM OF SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN ASIA CAN BE ACHIEVED DESPITE ALL DIFFICULTIES AND OBSTACLES." HE SAID THAT JOINT ACTIONS BY ALL REGIONAL STATES AND " PERSISTENCE, BROAD APPROACH AND FARSIGHTEDNESS ON PART LEADERS OF ASIAN COUNTRIES" REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. KEY PRINCIPLES OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM WHICH USSR AND ITS FRIENDS AND ALLIES WANT " SHOA D PROVIDE FOR RENUNCIATION OF USE OF FORCE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES, RESPECT OF SOVEREIGNTY, INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIES, NON- INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER INTERNAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AFFAIRS, EXTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ECONOMIC AND OTHER COOPERATION ON AN EQUAL FOOTING." PODGORNYY SAID THIS SYSTEM WOULD BE " FULLY IN LINE WITH UN CHARTER AND NOT DIRECTED TOWARD ANY STATE." BUT HE ALSO REFERRED TO " CERTAIN ADVENTURIST CIRCLES WHICH, BEING PROMPTED BY THEIR HEGEMONISTIC ASPIRATIONS, SEEK TO PLAY DOMINANT ROLE IN ASIA." CONCLUDING ON SUBJECT, PODGORNYY

SAID NUMBER OF ASIAN COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY INDICATED THEIR POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO THIS IDEA AND SAID SOVIET UNION " SINCERELY WILLING COOPERATE WITH OTHER STATES IN MATERIALIZING THIS IDEA" ON BASIS ITS ESTABLISHMENT WOULD MEET INTEREST ALL ASIAN PEOPLES AND STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL PEACE.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SOLID EVIDENCE NOT YET AVAILABLE, WE AND OTHER DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS ALL HAVE BEEN NOTING VARIOUS SUGGESTIVE STRAWS IN THE WIND THAT SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS MAY HAVE BEEN QUITE SIGNIFICANT. IN PARTICULAR, WE BELIEVE SOVIETS STRONGLY PRESSING FOR AFGHAN SUPPORT FOR COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM IN ASIA (PERHAPS ALONG LINES JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING PREMIER KOSYGIN' S VISIT TO IRAN - TEHRAN 1754). SOVIET DCM ACKNOWLEDGED TO CHARGE THAT " SOMETHING ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE." (WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY LATE ON MAY 24). IN ATTEMPTING ELICIT AFGHANS' VIEWS ON SUBJECT; ADCM RAISED WITH ACTING DIRECTOR, POLITICAL AFFAIRS, MFA WHO, IN USUAL OBTUSE BUT UNCHARACTERISTIC COY MANNER LEND SUPPORT TO THEORY THAT ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM IS INDEED ONE OF SUBJECT BEING DISCUSSED. HE ALSO THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MENTIONED IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED AFTER VISIT BUT COULD NOT BE PINNED DOWN AS TO WHETHER WOULD BE MENTIONED AS SOVIET IDEA AS JOINTLY APPROVED. EGYPTIAN AND INDIAN AMBASSADORS AND KUSHANI(ACTING DIRECTOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT MFA) ALL INDICATED TO EMBOFF AT KABUL MAJOR' S INFORMAL LUNCHEON FOR PODGORNYY VARYING DEGREES OF SURPRISE THAT HM' S TOAST WARMLY AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED ARAB POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST, WHILE PODGORNYY' S COMMENTS MUCH LESS PRECISE ON THIS POINT. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR SAID HE QUESTIONED PM SHAFIQ ABOUT THIS AND REPORTED SHAFIQ SAID FINAL COMMUNIQUE WOULD HAVE SOMETHING IN IT. AMBASSADOR SAID HE TOLD SHAFIQ THIS NOT GOOD ENOUGH. SAME GROUP, PLUS TURKISH AMBASSADOR, EXPRESSED CURIOSITY ABOUT PODGORNYY' S OVERWHELMING EMPHASIS ON COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM. KUSHANI (WHO PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN MOSCOW) SAID RGA CONFUSED ABOUT PURPOSE THIS IDEA AND INDIAN AMBASSADOR OBSERVED PURPOSE OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM WAS AIMED AT CHINA (WHICH, OF COURSE, POSE SERIOUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROBLEMS FOR RGA AS POINTED OUT REF B).

6. VISIT WENT SMOOTHLY WITH NO OBVIOUS HITCHES. AFGHANS HAVE PROVIDED GOOD SECURITY AND SEEMED INTENT THROUGHOUT ON HAVING " SUCCESSFUL" VISIT. FAREWELL CEREMONIES AT AIRPORT NOTABLE ONLY FOR UNUSUAL AMOUNT OF TIME AND WARM ATTENTION PODGORNYY DEVOTED PUBLICLY TO IRAQI AMBASSADOR, AND FOR REMARKABLE INABILITY AFGHAN MILITARY BAND TO PLAY AFGHANISTAN' S OWN NATIONAL ANTHEM, MUCH LESS SOVIET. LEWIS

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